

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2000 General Assembly.

## SENATE ENROLLED ACT No. 229

AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning insurance.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

SECTION 1. IC 27-1-37.2 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]:

### **Chapter 37.2. Health Insurance Educator**

**Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "health benefit plan" means coverage for health care services provided under:**

- (1) a policy of accident and sickness insurance (as defined in IC 27-8-5-1);**
- (2) a contract with a health maintenance organization under IC 27-13; or**
- (3) any other benefit program that provides payment, reimbursement, or indemnification for the costs of health care except:**
  - (A) worker's compensation or similar insurance; or**
  - (B) benefits provided under a certificate of exemption issued by the worker's compensation board under IC 22-3-2-5.**

**Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "health benefit plan provider" means a person that provides coverage under a health benefit plan.**

**Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "health insurance educator" refers to the health insurance educator appointed under section 6 of this chapter.**



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**Sec. 4.** As used in this chapter, "position" means the position of health insurance educator established under section 5 of this chapter.

**Sec. 5.** The department shall establish the position of health insurance educator within the department.

**Sec. 6.** The commissioner shall appoint a health insurance educator who must possess expertise in the areas of health benefit plans, education, and advocacy.

**Sec. 7.** The department may contract with a nonprofit organization to provide the services required under this chapter.

**Sec. 8. (a)** The health insurance educator shall do the following:

(1) Assist health benefit plan consumers in making informed choices regarding health benefit plans by providing information about the following:

(A) The purchase, or enrollment in, a health benefit plan.

(B) The manner in which to resolve a dispute with a health benefit plan.

(C) The method of filing a claim under a health benefit plan.

(D) The availability of resources useful to a health benefit plan consumer.

(E) Consumer rights and responsibilities under a health benefit plan.

(F) Comparative information about health benefit plans to consumers and purchasers of health benefit plans.

(G) Other matters that may further a health benefit plan consumer's knowledge of health insurance benefit plans.

(2) Apply to obtain funds through federal grants and any other source. Any funds obtained shall be used to fulfill the purposes described in subdivision (1).

**(b)** Notwithstanding subsection (a)(1), the health insurance educator shall not:

(1) recommend a particular company, insurance producer, or product; or

(2) interpret or advise an individual regarding a particular contract or disputed claim that is subject to the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act (29 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.).

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President of the Senate

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President Pro Tempore

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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Governor of the State of Indiana

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**SEA 229 — Concur+**

